

REMARKS

The undersigned wishes to thank Examiner Nguyen for the courtesy of two telephone interviews during which time the distinguishing features of the invention were discussed.

Claims 1, 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based upon the combination of Byun, Johnson and Schmidt.

The self-aligning and self-locking features have been emphasized in the amended claims as an agreed upon distinctive aspect of the invention. It is thus submitted that all claims now in the case are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. However, if Examiner Nguyen finds any remaining informalities, a third telephone interview is requested to resolve them.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is being deposited in the U.S. mail, first class postage paid, addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, this June 24, 2004.


Charles J. Prescott